

## EXHIBIT 7: Letters of Support

GEORGE MILLER  
7TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

2205 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0507  
(202) 225-2095

[www.house.gov/georgemiller](http://www.house.gov/georgemiller)

DANIEL WEISS  
CHIEF OF STAFF

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
AND THE WORKFORCE  
SENIOR DEMOCRAT

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES

DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

April 19, 2004

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0507

CAROL HATCH  
DISTRICT DIRECTOR  
1333 WILLOW PASS ROAD  
SUITE 203  
CONCORD, CA 94520  
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3220 BLUME DRIVE  
SUITE 281  
RICHMOND, CA 94806  
(510) 282-0500

375 G STREET  
SUITE #1  
VALLEJO, CA 94582  
(707) 545-1888

TTY (202) 225-1804

Mr. Jim E. Ball, Executive Director  
Solano Land Trust  
P.O. Box 115  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Mr. Ball:

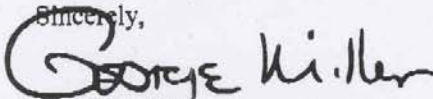
I am writing in strong support of Solano Land Trust's plans to purchase the Vallejo Swett Ranch in Solano County. This acquisition will preserve a key piece of critical undeveloped land in an area of Solano County under threat of urbanization. It will also form an important link to a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail at Lynch Canyon Open Space dedicated in November 2002.

The Vallejo Swett Ranch is a 908-acre part of the proposed Sky Valley-Cordelia Hills Open Space. The project is a partnership of public and private groups, including the Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, and Vallejo; Greater Vallejo Recreation District; Solano County; and Solano Land Trust. Upon completion, 10,000 acres of land will be preserved for public recreation, wildlife conservation, watershed preservation, and ranching. Preserving these lands will have the added benefit of encouraging smart growth within existing city areas by securing an open space buffer rather than having these lands lost to urban sprawl.

I also support this request because Solano Land Trust has already demonstrated responsible project management for working to ensure matching funds. Your organization has set aside \$400,000 mitigation monies you have received to complete the purchase of the Vallejo Swett Ranch. Solano Land Trust is currently poised to take advantage of an exceptional opportunity. You have found a willing seller in PG&E, but it is uncertain when a situation like this one will arise again. Hopefully I will be successful in obtaining \$2,000,000 from the reauthorization of the federal gas tax.

I applaud your efforts and am pleased to be part of this acquisition.

Sincerely,



George Miller  
Member of Congress  
7th District, California

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## EXHIBIT 7: Letters of Support

ELLEN O. TAUSCHER  
10TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
HIGHWAYS, TRANSIT AND PIPELINES

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROJECTION FORCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TOTAL FORCES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0510

1034 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
TELEPHONE (202) 225-1850  
FAX (202) 225-8914

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WALNUT CREEK, CA 94698  
TELEPHONE (925) 932-5599  
FAX (925) 932-8158

8000 CADEBASSO DRIVE  
SUITE A  
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533  
TELEPHONE (707) 429-7792  
FAX (707) 438-0823

420 WEST 3RD STREET  
ANTIOCH, CA 94509  
TELEPHONE (825) 757-7187  
FAX (925) 757-7058

Web Address: [www.house.gov/taucher](http://www.house.gov/taucher)

April 12, 2004

Mr. Jim Ball  
Executive Director  
Solano Land Trust  
PO Box 115  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Mr. Ball,

I am writing in support of the Trust's plans to purchase the Vallejo Swett Ranch in Solano County.

Your organization's acquisition will preserve a key piece of undeveloped land in the County. Currently, the region is undergoing rapid growth. By securing the Vallejo Swett Ranch for open space use, the Trust is providing an important solution to the challenges of urbanization. At the same time, the project will form an essential link to a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail's Lynch Canyon Open Space, which your organization also manages.

I understand that the over 900 acres of the Vallejo Swett Ranch will play an important role in the Solano Land Trust's program to create the Sky Valley-Cordelia Hills Open Space. A diverse group of public and private stakeholders have come together for the Open Space Project, including the Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, and Vallejo; Greater Vallejo Recreation District; Solano County; and the Solano Land Trust. This project will also play an important role in the greenbelt that you have helped plan for the communities of Fairfield, Vacaville, and Benicia. Securing these lands will prevent unplanned sprawl and encourages smart growth within existing city areas. Upon completion, the entire the Sky Valley-Cordelia Hills Open Space Project will preserve 10,000 acres of land for public recreation, wildlife conservation, watershed preservation, and ranching.

I also support this request because the Trust has already demonstrated responsible project management by working to ensure matching funds. Your organization has set aside \$400,000 mitigation monies you have received to complete the purchase of the Vallejo Swett Ranch.

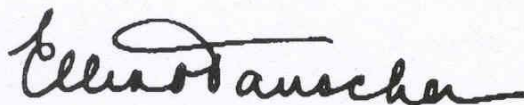
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The Trust is currently posed to take advantage of an exceptional opportunity. You have found a willing seller for these acquisitions in PG&E, but it is uncertain when a situation like this one will ever arise again. This is a special chance to preserve what limited open space is still available for our community today and future generations.

I support this project and hope that you will keep me updated on its progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ellen O. Tauscher". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Ellen O. Tauscher  
Member of Congress

## EXHIBIT 7: Letters of Support

STANDING COMMITTEES:  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW,  
CHAIR  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
SUBCOMMITTEE #3 CHAIR  
EDUCATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5100  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 445-3375  
FAX (916) 323-6958

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**WESLEY CHESBRO**  
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT



SELECT COMMITTEES:  
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY,  
CHAIR  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
& MENTAL HEALTH, CHAIR  
BAY AREA TRANSPORTATION  
FORESTRY  
MOBILE & MANUFACTURED  
HOMES  
RURAL EDUCATION  
JOINT COMMITTEES:  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON  
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

April 9, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1130 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito,

I strongly urge you to support Solano Land Trust's grant request to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council for the purchase of the **Vallejo Swett Ranch**. This acquisition will preserve a key piece of critical undeveloped land in an area of Solano County under threat of urbanization. It will also form an important link to a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail at Lynch Canyon Open Space dedicated in November 2002.

The Vallejo Swett Ranch is a 908-acre part of the proposed Sky Valley-Cordelia Hills Open Space. The project is a partnership of public and private groups, including the Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, and Vallejo; Greater Vallejo Recreation District; Solano County; and Solano Land Trust. Upon completion, 10,000 acres of land will be preserved for public recreation, wildlife conservation, watershed preservation, and ranching. Preserving these lands will have the added benefit of encouraging smart growth within existing city areas by securing an open space buffer rather than having these lands lost to urban sprawl.

Time is not on our side. We must act now to preserve our future and we currently have a willing seller in PG&E for these acquisitions.

Thank you and the Conservancy Board for your favorable consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Wesley Chesbro", with a stylized flourish at the end.

WESLEY CHESBRO  
Senator, Second District

WC/bo

444 GEORGIA STREET  
VALLEJO, CA 94590  
TEL (707) 848-5312  
FAX (707) 848-5389

50 D STREET, SUITE 120A  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404  
TEL (707) 576-2771  
FAX (707) 576-2773

710 E STREET, SUITE 150  
EUREKA, CA 95501  
TEL (707) 445-6506  
FAX (707) 445-6511

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FAX (707) 224-1992

P.O. BOX 785  
UKIAH, CA 95482  
TEL (707) 468-8014  
FAX (707) 468-8021

## EXHIBIT 7: Letters of Support

State Capitol  
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Sacramento, CA 94249-0008  
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Vacaville, CA 95688  
(707) 455-8025  
Fax (707) 455-0480

Email  
assemblymember.wolk@assembly.ca.gov  
Website  
<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a08>

### Assembly California Legislature

Lois Wolk  
Assemblymember, Eighth District



Chair  
Human Services  
Committee  
Budget  
Health  
Natural Resources  
Utilities and Commerce  
Water, Parks and Wildlife  
Subcommittee  
Budget Subcommittee on Resources  
Select  
Equal Access to Preschool  
Biotechnology  
California Ports  
California Water Needs and Climate Change  
Children's Physical and Mental Well-Being  
Domestic Violence  
Future of Farming in California  
Rural Economic Development  
Wetlands

April 6, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1130 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito,

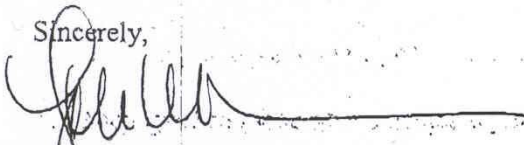
I strongly urge you to support Solano Land Trust's grant request to the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council for the purchase of the Vallejo Swett Ranch. This acquisition will preserve a key piece of critical undeveloped land in an area of Solano County under threat of urbanization. It will also form an important link to a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail at Lynch Canyon Open Space dedicated in November 2002.

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Time is not on our side. We must act now to preserve our future and we currently have a willing seller in PG&E for these acquisitions.

Your support will make a difference. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



LOIS WOLK  
Assemblywoman, 8<sup>th</sup> AD

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## EXHIBIT 7: Letters of Support



BAY AREA  
RIDGE TRAIL  
COUNCIL

November 16, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman  
Board of Directors  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing to express our support for the Solano Land Trust's application for a grant of \$200,000 to acquire the Vallejo Swett Ranch in Solano County. This acquisition will preserve a critical piece of undeveloped land and form an important link to segments of the Bay Area Ridge Trail at Lynch Canyon (managed by the Solano Land Trust), Hiddenbrooke Open Space and Blue Rock Springs Park.

Vallejo Swett Ranch is a 908-acre part of the proposed Sky Valley-Cordelia Hills Open Space. Preserving this land will support public recreation, wildlife conservation, and watershed protection in the rapidly urbanizing Interstate 80 corridor.

Our 2002 *Vallejo Ridge Trail Route Study: Hiddenbrooke to Blue Rock Springs Park*, funded in part by the Coastal Conservancy, found the acquisition of the Vallejo Swett Ranch would be a major link in the regional trail system because it will connect major existing trails and ultimately help provide trail connections between the cities of Fairfield, Vallejo and Benicia.

We believe this project would preserve the land needed to complete the Bay Area Ridge Trail in this part of Solano County and would provide significant public benefits to the residents of the region. Many thanks for your favorable consideration of the Solano Land Trust's proposed acquisition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Holly Van Houten".

Holly Van Houten  
Executive Director

1007 GENERAL KENNEDY AVENUE, SUITE 3, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94129  
(415) 561-2595 FAX: (415) 561-2599  
FD@RIDGETRAIL.ORG WWW.RIDGETRAIL.ORG